

Europe it is replaced by a closely allied but specifically distinct race, *Turdus alpestris*. For the Linnet and Redpolls the genus *Cannabina* is adopted, which is, we think, wrong, as *Linota* is the correct generic title for this group.

The author says in the Preface that "the classification and nomenclature practically accord with those of the 'List of British Birds' compiled by a committee of the British Ornithologists' Union, but a number of necessary alterations have been made"; and we think it would have been much better if he had followed that list more closely than he has done. In the first case the adoption of the so-called *Scomber-scomber* principle is a mistake, as pointed out in the 'Ibis' (1894, p. 566, and 1895, p. 168), and is in direct opposition to the Stricklandian code and the B. O. U. Committee. But Mr. Swann does not, we perceive, adopt this principle all through, as he calls the Hawfinch *Coccothraustes vulgaris* and the Goldfinch *Carduelis elegans* and not *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* and *Carduelis carduelis*. It is a pity also that trinomialism has been introduced into this work, as it is, we hold, not calculated to simplify matters and has not taken root, here in England at least, and seems out of place in a work which is especially adapted for use by the general public and not by scientific ornithologists.

On the whole, however, the work is one calculated to be of use to the small collector, being handy in size, well up to date, and well within the means of small collectors as regards price, but would, we think, prove more useful were it subjected to some alteration and revision.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the Habitat of Gobius elapoides, Gthr.

To the Editors of the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History.'

GENTLEMEN,—When Dr. Günther (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1871, p. 665, pl. lxiii. fig. D) gave the description and figure of this beautiful and highly interesting *Gobius* he could not certify its habitat, only supposing that it inhabits some part of the coasts of the Japanese regions. It may thus be worth noticing that the Museum of Upsala has received a specimen, length 83 millim. (68 millim. without caudal fin, from the tip of the snout to the front margin of the last transverse dark brown band), that was taken by Captain Svensson at St. John's Island, 90 miles east of Hongkong.

Yours truly,
F. A. SMITT.

Stockholm,
July 7, 1896.